

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A gastric band comprising:
 - a tension carrying belt;
 - a balloon attached to said tension carrying belt, said balloon comprising a plurality of partitions defining a plurality of inner chambers; and
 - a fluid supply tube in fluid communication with said balloon and attached to said tension carrying belt.

2. The gastric band of claim 1, wherein said fluid supply tube further comprises a plurality of inlets wherein each of said plurality of inlets is in fluid communication with a corresponding one of said plurality of inner chambers of said balloon and said fluid supply tube.
3. The gastric band of claim 2, wherein said fluid supply tube further comprises a plurality of check valves each of which is located within one of said plurality of inlets.
4. The gastric band of claim 3, wherein each of said plurality of check valves comprises a one-way check valve.
5. The gastric band of claim 3 wherein each of said plurality of check valves comprises a two-way check valve.
6. The gastric band of claim 2, wherein two or more of said plurality of inlets of said fluid supply tube are of different sizes.
7. The gastric band of claim 6, wherein said plurality of inlets are ordered from smallest to largest along said fluid supply tube such that said plurality of chambers of said balloon fill at relatively substantially similar rates.
8. The gastric band of claim 1, wherein said balloon has a length between about 8cm and about 15cm.
9. The gastric band of claim 1, wherein said tension carrying belt further comprises a latching mechanism.
10. The gastric band of claim 9, wherein said latching mechanism comprises one or more sutures.

11. A gastric band comprising:
 - a tension carrying belt;
 - a plurality of balloons wherein said plurality of balloons is attached to said tension carrying belt; and
 - a fluid supply tube comprising a plurality of inlets wherein said fluid supply tube is attached to said tension carrying belt such that said plurality of inlets of said fluid supply tube provide fluid communication between each of said plurality of balloons and said fluid supply tube.

12. The gastric band of claim 11, wherein said fluid supply tube further comprises a plurality of check valves each of which is located within one of said plurality of inlets of said fluid supply tube.

13. A gastric band comprising:
 - a tension carrying belt having a top portion;
 - a balloon having an interior surface, said balloon further comprising one or more reinforced sections disposed along the length of said interior surface of said balloon said balloon being attached to said tension carrying belt; and
 - a fluid supply tube wherein said fluid supply tube provides fluid communication between said balloon and said fluid supply tube.

14. The gastric band of claim 13, wherein upon being placed in an encircling position around a stomach, each of said reinforced sections contacts said top portion of said tension carrying belt dividing said balloon into at least two chambers.
15. The gastric band of claim 14, wherein said fluid supply tube further comprises a plurality of inlets wherein each of said plurality inlets of said fluid supply tube is in fluid communication with at least one of said at least two chambers of said balloon and with said fluid supply tube.
16. The gastric band of claim 15, wherein said fluid supply tube further comprises a plurality of check valves each of which is located within one of said plurality of inlets of said fluid supply tube.
17. The gastric band of claim 16, wherein said balloon has a length between about 8cm and about 15cm .
18. The gastric band of claim 17, wherein said one or more reinforced sections comprise a material thicker than balloon.
19. The gastric band of claim 18, wherein each of said one or more reinforced sections has a first end, a second end and a midpoint wherein the thickness of each of said one or more reinforced sections at said first end and said second end is substantially the same thickness as said balloon and wherein said thickness of each of said one or more reinforced sections at said midpoint is greater than the thickness of said balloon.
20. The gastric band of claim 19, wherein the thickness of each of said one or more reinforced sections at said midpoint is between about two and about eight times the thickness of said balloon.